



DJJ Partnership



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Director's Comments

I am pleased to offer you the opportunity to sample the latest effort to make our stakeholders more aware of the people and programs that makeup Virginia's Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). We call our new electronic newsletter, **DJJ Partnership**, because partnering is one of the most important things we can do over the next few years.

I truly believe one of our greatest challenges will be to get more organizations to desire to have a say in the juvenile justice process in Virginia.

Our mission here at DJJ is to do just that and more.

At the core of our activity is the protection of the public through a balanced approach of comprehensive services that prevents and reduces juvenile crime through collaboration with families, schools, law enforcement, and other agencies, while providing delinquent youth the opportunity to become responsible and productive citizens.

DJJ Partnership will tell you some of the stories and accomplishments that make this agency one of the national leaders in providing juvenile justice services.

I trust you will find the information useful and that you will subscribe to our e-mail notification of future issues.

Jerrauld C. Jones
Director



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Scan Notes:

**Alexandria Youth article missing.*

**New DJJ Employees is incomplete.*



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The Director's New Secretary

You can't define Barbara Jones by her new title as Secretary to the Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice. That's because her interests are broad and her confidence to handle many different types of work requirements are obvious.

Those qualities came across to the evaluation committee screening candidates for the position. And she isn't shy about asking questions. "I remember asking the panelists during my first interview what does the Director do?" Jones recalled.



She was his number one choice for the position. Perhaps it was her not-so-shy manner. But, just as possibly, it was her broad experience working for firms such as McKinney and Company; a planning, design and construction firm, S&K Menswear Corporation, Lingerfelt Development Corporation, her time owning her own business, "Maid to Clean Inc.," or her stint as administrative secretary to then Richmond Chief of Police Jerry Oliver that won Director Jones over.

Barbara says she loves her job at DJJ adding that it is somewhat similar to her previous duties for Richmond's Bureau of Police. She commented that the "people here are very nice and work well as a team."

As to how Jones spends her time when she is not answering the phone in the Director's Office, or the constant updating of his schedule, she is often found relaxing spending time with her granddaughter Allie at Virginia Beach.

There is also the small matter of her book in progress, "Till Death Do Us Part-Hauntings of a Childhood" She is at 400 pages and counting. Barbara has been working on the book for the last five years. She describes the work as an autobiography and she is shopping around for a publisher this year.

When you're in Richmond, come by and meet Barbara. Her emphasis on customer-service will make you feel comfortable and welcome.



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Central Office Employees Make an Assist to Blackwell Elementary

"I think all department employees, to the extent they are able, should have positive involvement with children outside of the workplace," said DJJ Director Jerrauld Jones. "I know many of our people do as much as they can for youngsters entrusted to our care, but I think it is equally important that we get involved with young people before there is reason to have them interact with the juvenile justice system."



It is that kind of encouragement that allows a number of DJJ Central Office staff to keep a "lunch date" with young people twice a month at Blackwell Elementary School in Richmond.

The challenges facing an urban school district such as Richmond's are well documented and the school district is attempting to address important issues such as test performance and school discipline. However, part of the solution has to be getting people from all walks of life interested in the education of young people and helping them to overcome obstacles in the pursuit of education.

The "Lunch Buddy Program" as it is called is just that. It is a one-to-one partnership with a child over lunch. Maybe just helping a kid to read, or giving a subject assist, or maybe just plain encouragement to the youngster. The DJJ employees who take part in the program do so because they hope their involvement will make a difference.

The program will run until May of 2004. We'll keep you posted on developments throughout the year.

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Hanover Juvenile Correctional Center Scores High in JROTC Competition

The Junior Reserve Officer Training Core, or JROTC as it is best known, was established at Hanover Juvenile Correctional Center (JCC) back in 1996. Its purpose was to bring an element of military discipline to the young men at the facility.



As an academic program, which is endorsed by the United States Army, JROTC stresses military leadership and focuses on the duties of leadership, the principles of leadership and those traits held by leaders. It also has its practical military aspects as classes are taught in map reading, safety, first aid, just to name a few of the useful subjects provided at John H. Smyth High School on the Hanover campus.

Major Retired, Wendell K. Quash, Senior Army Instructor of the Hanover JROTC program has been its leader since its inception and he feels the true mission of the JROTC program is to "motivate our wards to become better citizens." Over 90 percent of the wards at Hanover JCC are enrolled in the JROTC program.

Recently, Hanover was the host site for the annual "Field Day" competition. Richmond area high schools with JROTC programs are invited for a day of friendly activity, which includes some fairly rigorous competition. The Field Day program gives the cadets the opportunity to showcase their skill in three competitive areas: 3-on-3 basketball; knockout drill, where cadets are given stationary commands to follow until a mistake is made and units are "knocked out" leaving the winning unit still standing; and the unit drill, a marching competition allowing units to march in formation either armed or unarmed where they are judged on their precision.

The list of schools in the most recent Field Day is the highest level of participation since the program was initiated. Eleven schools: Charles City High, Caroline High, Smithfield High, Manchester High, Petersburg High, Huguenot High, Cumberland High, John Marshall High, John F. Kennedy High, and John H. Smyth High, the host school, joined in the competition.

The JROTC unit attached to John H. Smyth at Hanover JCC won first place in the Unit Drill and first place in the 3-on-3 basketball competition. Congratulations for winning two out of the three events!

However, the real purpose for the day beyond the chance for winning is the exposure. Exposure for both sides. As Major Quash puts it, "We want to let the youngsters in the public schools know what life is like in a juvenile institution so as to deter them from ever engaging in crime. For our kids, we want the contact with youngsters on the outside to motivate them to get out, stay involved in school and lead productive lives."



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Each General Assembly Session, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) submits its own legislative agenda. The following is a brief overview of those bills. We will report back to you in our next issue of DJJ Partnership on the outcome of the legislative agenda.

Arguably the most significant bill, **HB 1062 (Delegate Armstrong)** amends the Virginia Code to give an intake officer greater discretion to proceed informally against a juvenile who is alleged to have committed a misdemeanor or status offense. Of equal importance is **HB 1146 (Delegate McDonnell)**. HB 1146 places timeframes upon the circuit court for conducting an appeal of a juvenile court's decision when the juvenile remains incarcerated in a detention facility. Currently, no timeframes exist for conducting such appeals. While awaiting appeal, the juvenile does not receive treatment, services or good time credit; and the locality must foot the bill.

On another matter, **HB 1209 (Delegate BaCote)** requires the juvenile probation officer to continually search for less restrictive alternatives to secure detention when a juvenile is detained in a local detention facility. HB 1209 will make it the policy of the Commonwealth that, when a juvenile is securely detained prior to disposition, DJJ is responsible for ensuring that a less restrictive alternative to detention is sought. This bill is consistent with DJJ's efforts to limit the use of secure detention to only those juveniles who present an ongoing threat to public safety and to limit the duration of detention when appropriate, less restrictive alternatives are available.

HB 1274 (Delegate Moran) amends Virginia Code § 16.1-275 to remove a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) from those juveniles who may be placed in the temporary custody of DJJ for a 30-day diagnostic assessment at the Reception and Diagnostic Center (RDC) prior to final disposition of his case. It makes no sense to place juveniles "alleged" to be CHINS at RDC with those juveniles found to be delinquent. Finally, under current law a judge must order the predispositional detention of persons 18 years of age or older in an adult facility. A juvenile intake officer must place that adult person in a juvenile detention facility. **HB 937 (Delegate Kilgore)** amends the Virginia Code to allow a juvenile intake officer to order the confinement of a person over the age of 18 in a jail rather than in a juvenile detention facility for an offense that occurred prior to that person obtaining the age of 18.



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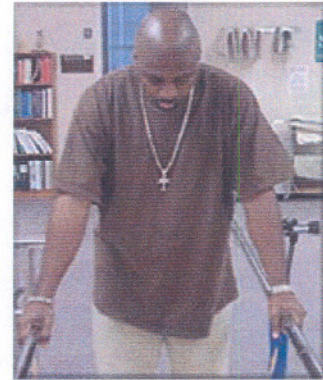
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DJJ Hero on the Mend

Juvenile Correctional Officer Senior Antonio Sharp remembers the night Hurricane Isabel struck better than most. He should. His memories aren't those of inconvenience-no electricity to run the television or to help the refrigerator keep food cold. Antonio's memories of the hurricane are those of the devastating impact it had on his body.



It was just in his nature to help. The neighborhood was already darkened by a power outage caused by the storm. "I saw a car with the lights on stuck in a ditch near my house," said Sharp, who lives in Petersburg. "At first, I thought it was someone driving by who needed help." He later discovered it was a neighbor, Petersburg policeman Ed Jones, whose cruiser had settled in a ditch during the early portion of the storm. Sharp came out of the house to help, and the rest, as they say, is history.

"Two trees fell on me while I was working to help free the cruiser. I was hit in the back." The damage was extensive to Antonio. A fractured pelvis, a dislocated hip, torn ligaments in his lower back and a chip fracture in one ankle. The pain was excruciating. If the injuries weren't bad enough, he had to wait nearly an hour until rescue personnel, blocked by downed power lines and ditches filled with water from Hurricane Isabel, could reach him to provide medical assistance and take him to the hospital where he would spend the next 13 days.

Since his release from the Medical College of Virginia, Sharp has been "trying to get back on track," as he puts it. Just before the Christmas holiday he was cleared to get up from the wheelchair and begin the therapy that will allow him to walk again.

Sharp, who hails from Chicago, Illinois, but has spent the last 15 years in the Petersburg area, has been a correctional officer at DJJ's Oak Ridge facility for almost eight years. The time at Oak Ridge has made some strong bonds. "People from there, including Superintendent Dickerson, call and check on me from time to time to see how I'm doing," he says. He added, "A lot of people at Oak Ridge donated time to me through the state's leave-sharing program so I can afford to stay out long enough until I'm healed to come back to work." In addition to that, his friends at Oak Ridge started a fund in his name to help raise money while he's off the job and faced with lots of medical bills.

Juvenile Correctional Officer Senior Ed Williams, who also works at Oak Ridge, gets special recognition from Antonio. "He's been there from day one, even taking time off to take me to doctor's appointments."

While he mends from his injuries, Sharp reads, watches television, and, of course, has lots of time to catch up on things around the house with his wife Karen and their 13-year-old daughter Delicia.

Meanwhile, he hopes to get back to work as soon as is possible. His fellow workers at Oak Ridge can't wait to see him walk through the door.



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On the Inside

It's a Tuesday morning, 7 a.m. and it may be dark and wet outside. Inside the Reception, Diagnostic Center (RDC) intake cottage, you'll find "Shack" looking over the records. How many new kids have come into RDC? Do we have any kids who have been locked up? If we do have kids who have been locked up do they need a hearing? Do they need to go back to their cottage, do they need a shower and on and on. Do the new kids need haircuts? How many are going to the infirmary? Shack or Sergeant Donald Shackleford who is in charge of the intake cottage and the RDC transportation unit is on duty checking on all these matters. Only on holidays such as Christmas is the routine different.



All the juvenile correctional facilities have sergeants and these sergeants are the people in the middle. Somewhat like the meat in a sandwich they are a vital part of the institution neither at the top of the line nor at the bottom. The sergeants supervise the correctional officers and make sure that the day goes smoothly. It is up to them to see that when the wards are acting out that they are charged. On the other hand when a ward has problems adjusting to the institution because maybe he's an eleven year old who is locked up for the first time, or maybe he's a young person who may have assaulted someone but is deathly afraid someone else is going to hurt him, the sergeant can be there to assure the ward that everything will be ok. These are but a few of the problems that go on daily in a juvenile correctional institution and a sergeant is one of the first people on the line to tackle the problem and try to solve it. A sergeant is also the one that oversees the cottages, the dining hall and just about all areas of a facility.

Sergeant Shackleford who has worked in the system for 23 years always tries to help the wards work out problems without resorting to fighting. He talks to the wards and lets them know that getting into trouble is not the best way for them to resolve to become productive citizens when they are released back into society.

A sergeant's job is never done but many fine people like Sergeant Shackleford who work in the Juvenile Justice system continue to work to see that our wards are given a chance to change and grow.

Submitted by Harriet D. David, Ward Grievance Coordinator, Reception and Diagnostic Center

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Parenting Behind Bars

John Galloway's full-time job at the Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center (JCC) is recreation supervisor. However, he's seen through the eyes of the wards at Barrett for much more than his skills at planning recreation programs. Galloway doubles as director of the Fatherhood Program at Barrett. Its something he started six years ago when he discovered, "A lot of young men we were releasing had children when they came into the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and they were having trouble supporting their children after they left us. Sometimes they were even being subpoenaed concerning child support while they were still incarcerated."



Galloway, who has been employed by DJJ for 20 years, took up the cause of fatherhood after he attended a workshop in Virginia Beach led by Ron Clark, director of the Fatherhood Campaign at the Virginia Department of Social Services. The Virginia Fatherhood Campaign is a joint effort between Social Services and the Virginia Department of Health.

For the first five years of his program at Barrett, John was pretty much on his own running things and having some success. However, that has changed now, and for the better. Susan Heck, DJJ ombudsman, learned of Galloway's program, she mentioned it to the Department's Director Jerrauld C.

Jones, who like Susan thought it was a good idea and worthy of the department's support. This led to a proposal for replication of the Fatherhood Program at another DJJ institution, the Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center. Bon Air has recently graduated its first Fatherhood class. The effort at the JCC is actively supported by Bon Air Superintendent Linda McWilliams.

The program is implemented over a six to eight week period, using educational lectures and practical exercises relating to parenting for the young men. The overall goal is to identify and respond to the needs of juvenile offenders that are currently fathers or expectant fathers. Sessions are held on topics such as: Parenting Behind Bars, Relationships and Budgeting, Child Support Services, and Child Care Exercises. Eddie Nelson, supervisor of Child Support Services for the Virginia Department of Health and the aforementioned Ron Clark, both volunteer their time. Nelson deals with information relating to child support, while Clarks talks to the wards about the responsibilities of being a father, outlining those community resources available to these young dads, including job placement sources and additional Fatherhood workshops they may attend after their release. According to John Galloway, the support of these men is critical to the program's success, "The kids relate to us as African American men who work with them in the program. An important part of this is they get to see African American males place value on fatherhood, when many of them did not get a chance to see that growing up in their homes."

Juveniles enrolled in the program are those who are within two to three months of their release date from DJJ.

The future looks good for the Fatherhood Program. Galloway hopes to move it to DJJ's other institutions by the end of the year. He also credits the support of his immediate supervisor, Dr. Edward Shambry, the assistant superintendent at Barrett, who gives him time to work on the program at other institutions.

The real proof of the impact of the Fatherhood Program is held in the letters that John Galloway receives from the young men who have attended the sessions and graduated. Those letters give him credit for giving them the tools and even more importantly, the outlook to be good dads to their kids.

Editor's Note: John Galloway is looking for grants and other means of financial support to continue and expand the Fatherhood Program. He can be reached at 804. 746. 2135



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Welcome to the Department of Juvenile Justice!

These employees have joined DJJ since January of the New Year:

Division of Institutions

Brenda Copeland-Thorne - Rehabilitation Counselor, Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center

Mary C. Hayden - Office Services Assistant, Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center

Esther M. Raub - Food Service Worker, Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center

Brooke N. Claveloux - Office Services Assistant, Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center

Judith A. Binsley - Secretary Senior, Hanover Juvenile Correctional Center

Wayne N. Cochran - Storekeeper, Natural Bridge Juvenile Correctional Center

Angela L. Simmons - Recreation Specialist, Oak Ridge Juvenile Correctional Center

Jennifer A. Nixon - Storekeeper, Reception & Diagnostic Center-Bon Air

Division of Community Programs

Dayna L. Carlisle - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 3

Vincenia A. Davis - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 3

Ann B. Riddick - Office Services Assistant, Court Service Unit 3

Daniel J. Bairley - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 15

Samuel L. Koons - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 16

Hollie G. Jennings - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 24

Margie B. Wilson - Probation Officer, Court Service Unit 28

Central Office

Tripti Gangal - Senior Programmer/Analyst, Research & Evaluation